

1981

ILLINOIS FISHING INFORMATION



**Illinois
Department of
Conservation**
life and land together

ILLINOIS has more than 1½ million acres of water. Two-thirds of this acreage is in the Illinois portion of Lake Michigan. The remainder is scattered throughout the state in several major impoundments, and in lakes, farm ponds, river courses and backwaters.

THERE are 190 species of fish in Illinois aquatic ecosystems. In order to preserve these ecosystems, provide for the continuity of fish species in waters of the state and manage these waters for the maximum enjoyment of the majority of fishermen, certain regulations on the harvest of fish are necessary.

MUCH FISHING in Illinois is done on private waters, with consent of the property owner. One way to preserve the American tradition of good sportsmanship is to maintain a cooperative relationship with the person who is your host most of the time on private shoreline or waters.

CONSIDERATION for others is a basic philosophy of the sport fisherman. Your conduct can influence not only your own enjoyment of outdoor resources but also the enjoyment of other fishermen on both public and private waters. Ask the property owner for permission to fish, close all gates you have to open, be careful in crossing fences, operating, navigating and docking boats, put out all fires and leave your fishing area clean and uncluttered.

AND . . . treat state and federal waters, lands and property as you would like others to treat your own property — after all, you own it!

CATCH & SIZE LIMITS*

FISH

Black Bass (largemouth, smallmouth, spotted)	6 daily (singly or collectively, except in Mississippi River between Illinois and Iowa where daily limit is 10)
Muskie/Tiger Muskie	1 (singly or collectively, minimum length 30 inches)
Northern Pike	3 daily (except in Mississippi River between Illinois and Iowa where daily limit is 5 and in Mississippi River between Illinois and Missouri where daily limit in waters of Missouri is 1; 24-inch minimum length, except in Mississippi River where there is no size limit)
Salmon and Trout (in Lake Michigan)	5 (singly or collectively, not more than 3 of which may be Lake Trout; minimum length of 10 inches)
Salmon and Trout (outside Lake Michigan)	5 (singly or collectively)
Striped Bass (Ocean Rockfish) White Bass and their Hybrids	No bag limit for fish less than 17 inches except in certain waters. Bag limit is three in all waters for fish 17 inches long or longer
Walleye and Sauger	6 daily (singly or collectively, except in Mississippi River between Illinois and Iowa where daily limit is 10 and in Mississippi River between Illinois and Missouri where daily limit is 8)

FROGS

Bullfrog (season June 15- August 31, both dates inclusive)	8 (daily) 16 (possession)
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*These are state-wide regulations; specific areas may have regulations which differ. Please check regulations which are posted at each lake where applicable.

DIGEST OF FISHING REGULATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

The fisheries of Illinois are administered to assure conservation and enhancement of the fishery resource and the equity of the fishing public, while providing for maximum enjoyment of the sport. Statutes provide the framework by which fishing opportunities are administered. These opportunities, however, are sometimes subject to a variety of regulations, depending on local site conditions and situations peculiar to a particular fishery. These detailed regulations are set forth in administrative orders. Such orders are enforced in the same manner as are provisions of the statutes, and are subject to the same penalties.

BAIT FISHING

A sport fishing license permits the use of legal sized cast nets, shad scoops and minnow seines to obtain shad, minnows and crayfish to use as bait, provided that they are not sold. All cast nets shall be not larger than 8 feet in diameter or of a mesh size not larger than 3/8 inch bar measurement. All shad scoops shall be not larger than 30 inches in diameter or of a mesh size not larger than 1/2 inch bar measurement or longer than 4 feet in length. Minnow seines shall not be longer than 20 feet, deeper than 6 feet or contain mesh size larger than 1/2 bar measurement.

BASS

There are no statewide size or seasonal restrictions on black bass in Illinois; however, certain state-managed lakes have more restrictive regulations to assure protection of the fishery, hence the fisherman is advised to consult administrative orders posted at these lakes.

COMMERCIAL FISH

Size limits on fish taken commercially, or by commercial fishermen for market, are: channel catfish, flathead catfish, blue catfish, and white catfish, 15 inches. There is no size limit on carp, drum, bullhead, buffalo, shovelnose, sturgeon, paddlefish, sucker, gar (except alligator gar), bowfin, eel, yellow perch, chub, mooneye, goldeye, carpsuckers, and smelt. Trout, salmon and whitefish may not be taken commercially, but if caught incidentally must be returned to waters where taken.

COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE

A commercial fishing license is required of any person who uses a commercial device to take fish, minnows, frogs, or mussels. A resident commercial fishing license can be issued only to persons who have resided in Illinois for at least a year. The commercial fishing license expires March 31 annually. In addition, the holder of this license must obtain a license for each commercial device fished.



CRAYFISH

Crayfish may be taken for bait, using seine with mesh no larger than 1/2 inch. The seine should be no longer than 20 feet or deeper than 6 feet.

DAILY FEE FISHING AREA

All residents and non-residents, unless exempt, must have a sport fishing license to fish in a daily fee fishing area.

DIP NET

A sport fishing license allows the holder to take smelt in Lake Michigan with a dip net not exceeding 12 feet in diameter and having a mesh size not less than 1 inch diagonal stretch. In other waters carp, carpsuckers, buffalo and gizzard shad may be taken with a dip net up to 15 feet in diameter and with a mesh no less than 1 1/2 inches bar measure. Such equipment may not be used within 100 feet of a dam or to take game fish.

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

There are 13 species of fish in Illinois currently on the endangered and threatened species list and may not be taken. They are: bigeye chub, bluebreast darter, bluehead shiner, harlequin darter, longjaw cisco, cisco, longnose sucker, alligator gar, pugnose shiner, blacknose shiner, bantam sunfish, lake whitefish, and lake sturgeon.

FISH PRESERVES

All waters under state jurisdiction are statutorily fish preserves, open only to sport fishing. However, certain waters are open to commercial fishing by administrative order. These include: Lake Michigan (limited entry), Mississippi River (except Quincy Bay), Illinois River (except from the Illinois Route 89 Bridge upstream), Wabash River, Little Wabash River, Skillet Fork, and portions of the Embarras River, Sangamon River, Kaskaskia River, Big Muddy River, and Cache River.

FROGS

A sport fishing license is required to take bullfrogs. Firearms, airguns, gas guns or commercial fishing devices such as hoop nets, traps or seines are not allowed in the taking of bullfrogs.

ICE FISHING

A sport fishing license is required for ice fishing; the ice angler may use not more than two poles or tipups with no more than two hooks on each line. Holes cut in the ice are

limited to 12-inch diameter or less. Shelter structures are limited to portable construction of metal or wood framework, covered with canvas, paper, plastic material or similar fabric. Each shelter should have name and address of the owner attached, and after March 1 the shelter must be removed when not in use, and not left unattended at any time. All poles and tipups should be constantly attended, and kept under observation by the angler.

ILLEGAL DEVICES

Use of the following devices in the taking of fish is prohibited: electricity or electrical devices, lime, acid, medical, chemical or mechanical compound, dope, drugs, fishberry, dynamite, nitroglycerine or other explosive, snare, treated grain, firearms, air gun, gas gun, wire basket, wire seine, wire net, wire trotline or limb lines of any kind. Carp, buffalo, suckers, gar and bowfin may be taken by pitchfork, underwater spear gun, bow and arrow or other archery device, spear or gig, but no other fish may be taken by these means.

MINNOWS

A minnow is statutorily defined as any fish in the family Cyprinidae except carp and goldfish.

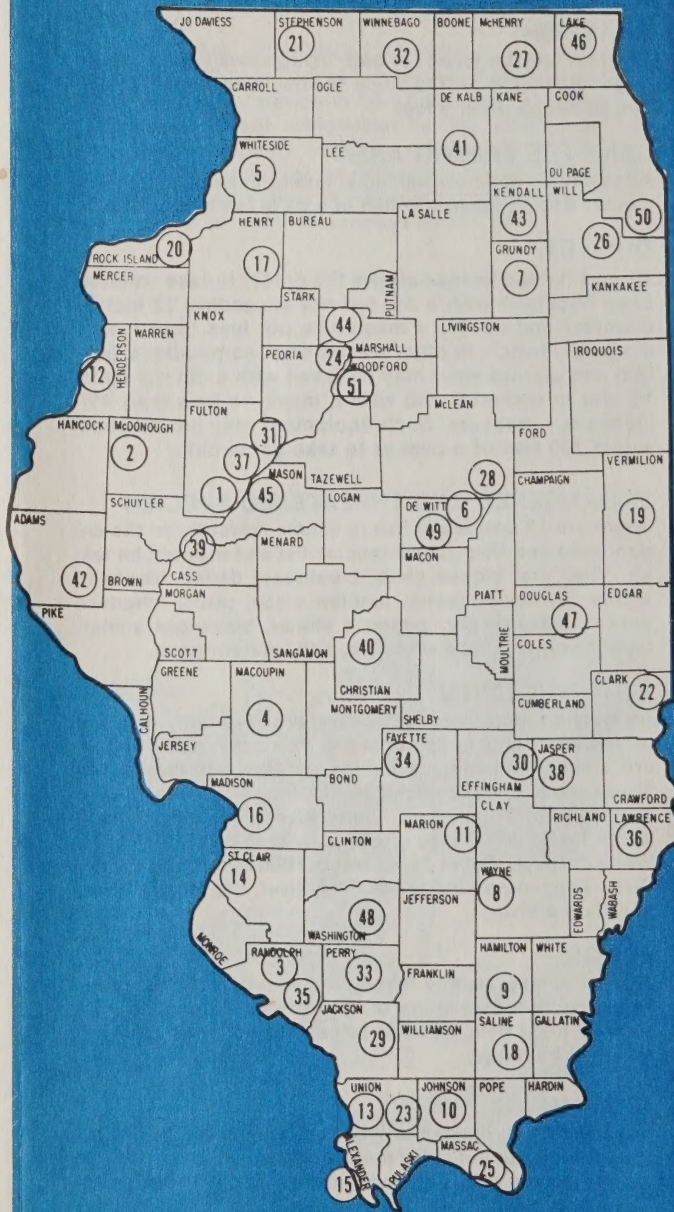


PLACES TO FISH IN ILLINOIS

Illinois has a variety of fishing waters, including about 80,000 ponds, lakes and impoundments and nearly 13,000 miles of inland streams and rivers. The great majority of fishing waters are privately owned, and the angler should gain permission from the landowner before fishing thereon. Some 72 fishing areas are under direct management of the Department of Conservation's Division of Fisheries, either through outright state ownership, management or lease agreement. These areas are open to public fishing, but regulations may differ from statewide regulations and ground rules may vary from site to site.

In the Shawnee National Forest in Southern Illinois, the Department of Conservation, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have a cooperative agreement in which ponds and lakes are managed for fishing. Some of these areas are remote and offer back-packing angling experience to those interested. For additional information, contact U.S. Forest Service, 317 East Poplar Street, Harrisburg, Illinois 62946 (618/253-7114).

Special Regulations: statutes provide the general framework for public fishing opportunities in Illinois, and these opportunities must be administered by a multitude of variations in order to assure the conservation of the fishery and the equity of the fishing public, while providing for maximum enjoyment of the sport. Regulation variations on state-administered sites are set forth in administrative orders, which give rules in localized detail. In addition, there are numerous sites which are administered through a variety of regulations depending upon the agency or political subdivision which has jurisdiction. The fisherman is advised to consult these regulations and, especially, to avoid private property trespass.



PRINCIPAL DEPT. OF CONSERVATION OWNED OR LEASED AREAS

	Acres	Boat Fishing	Launching Ramps	Boat Rental	Motors*	Camp/Picnic	Special Regs	LM Bass	SM Bass	Bluegill	Crapie	Sunfish	Catfish	Bullhead	Carp	Y. Perch	White Bass	Drum	N. Pike	Walleye	Yellow Bass	OTHER
1. Anderson Lake, Fulton	1364	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	
2. Argyle Lake, McDonough	95	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X	
3. Baldwin Lake, Randolph	2018	X	X	10	P	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X				
4. Beaver Dam, Macoupin	57	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
5. Carlton Lake, Whiteside	77	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
6. Clinton Lake, DeWitt	5002	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X		Tiger muskie, Hybrid striped bass Hybrid striped bass
7. Collins Lake Grundy	1900	X		X	X		X	X		X	X			X	X		X					
8. Dale Lake, Wayne	194	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X						
9. Dolan Lake, Hamilton	71	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
10. Ferne Clyffe, Johnson	16				0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X									
11. Forbes Lake, Marion	525	X	X	X	10	P	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X					
12. Gladstone Lake, Henderson	27	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
13. Grassy Lake, Union	310	X			10	C	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X							
14. Holten Lakes, St. Clair	208	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X						X	Sucker
15. Horseshoe Lake, Alexander	1890	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X							
16. Horseshoe Lake, Madison	2430	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X					
17. Johnson Sauk, Henry	58	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
18. Jones Lake, Saline	105	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
19. Kickapoo Lakes, Vermilion	184	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						Sucker Tiger muskie Rock bass
20. Lake George, Rock Island	167	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						X		
21. Lake Le-Aqua-Na, Stephenson	43	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
22. Lincoln Trail, Clark	146	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
23. Lysteria Lake, Union	260	X			10		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X							
24. Marshall County, Marshall	2557	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X							
25. Mermet Lake, Massac	452	X		X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
26. Milliken Lake, Will	22				0	P	X	X		X	X	X	X									
27. Moraine Hills, McHenry	95	X	X		0	P	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			Warmouth
28. Moraine View, McLean	150	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
29. Murphysboro, Jackson	144	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
30. Newton Lake, Jasper	1755	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						X		
31. Pekin Lake, Tazewell	548	X			10		X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X				Sucker Sucker
32. Pierce Lake, Winnebago	162	X	X	X	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X			
33. Pyramid Lakes, Perry	135	X	X	X	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
34. Ramsey Lake, Fayette	47	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
35. Randolph County Lake, Randolph	65	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
36. Red Hills, Lawrence	40	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
37. Rice Lake, Fulton	1383	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	
38. Sam Parr, Jasper	180	X	X	X	10	P	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
39. Sanganois, Cass	1550	X	X	X	10		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	
40. Sangchris, Christian	2165	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	
41. Shabbona, DeKalb	319	X	X	X	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X			Tiger muskie
42. Siloam Springs, Adams	58	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X									
43. Silver Springs, Kendall	16				0	P	X	X		X			X	X								
44. Sparland, Marshall	1300	X	X	X	P	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X							
45. Spring Lake, Tazewell	1285	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X			Sucker, Muskie
46. Turner Lake, Lake	34	X			0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X			X			X			
47. Walnut Point, Douglas	59	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X								
48. Washington County Lake, Washington	295	X	X	X	10	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						X		Warmouth
49. Weldon Springs, DeWitt	29	X	X	X	0	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X						
50. Wolf Lake, Cook	419	X	X	X	0	P	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			
51. Woodford County Cons. Area, Woodford	2790	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X		X	X	X			X				

*10 = 10 h.p. limit; X = no h.p. limit; 0 = no outboard motors allowed



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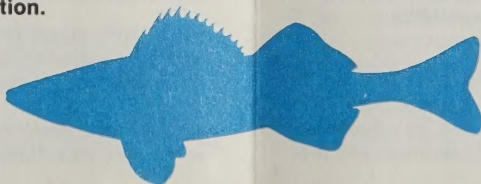
ADDITIONAL MAJOR FISHING AREAS

The following areas are noted because of their regional or statewide significance.

	Acres	Boat Fishing	Boat Rental	Launching Ramps	Water Skiing	Motors*	Swimming	Camp/Picnic	Special Regs	LM Bass	SM Bass	Bluegill	Crople	Sunfish	Catfish	Bullhead	Carp	Y. Perch	White Bass	Drum	N. Pike	Walleye	Yellow Bass	OTHER
52. Carlyle, Clinton, Fayette & Bond (U.S. Corps of Engineers, fishery managed by Ill. Div. of Fisheries)	24,580	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	Sauger
53. Chain O'Lakes, Lake & McHenry (At least 10 major natural lakes in Fox River watershed)	6,465	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		Sucker
54. Crab Orchard, Williamson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	7,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	Striped Bass
55. Devil's Kitchen, Williamson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	810	X	X	X		10	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X								Sucker, Trout
56. Lake of Egypt	2,400	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X										
57. Lake Kincaid, Jackson (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	2,750	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X					X			Striped Bass
58. Lake Michigan**	976,640	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X									X						Salmon, Trout, Smelt
59. Little Grassy, Williamson (Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife manages the fishery)	1,000	X	X	X		10	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X							
60. Rend Lake, Franklin & Jefferson (U.S. Corps of Engineers; fishery managed by Ill. Div. of Fisheries)	18,900	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	Striped bass
61. Shelbyville, Shelby & Moultrie (U.S. Corps of Engineers, fishery managed by Ill. Div. of Fisheries)	11,100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		Muskellunge

*10 = 10 h.p. limit; X = no h.p. limit; 0 = no outboard motors allowed

**Charter boat fishing available, call Department of Conservation at 312/793-2070 for further information.



SPECIAL REGS:

Those lakes marked with an (X) in these tables have regulations which differ from the statewide regulations. Please check the special regulations which are posted at each lake where applicable.

PCB's IN LAKE MICHIGAN FISH

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) accumulate in the fat of fish living in waters which have received discharges or fallout from the air containing PCB's. Low fat species, such as yellow perch, chubs and smelt, do not accumulate PCB's to the same extent as the larger fish of the high fat species including trout and salmon.

The Illinois Department of Public Health has advised that Lake Michigan salmon and trout may be contaminated with PCB's levels that exceed standards set by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The Department of Public Health has advised that fish consumers refrain from eating "coho salmon, chinook salmon, lake, rainbow and brown trout more than one meal per week of these species if these fish weigh seven (7) pounds or more." Fish that weigh less than seven pounds may be eaten safely. Also, women who are or could become pregnant, adolescent girls, nursing mothers and preschool-age children should eat none of above mentioned fish which weigh seven pounds or more.

Levels of PCB's can be reduced by removing the skin and all fatty portions of the fish along the back, side and belly. Broiling or any other cooking method which removes additional oils and fats should be utilized when preparing fish that may contain excessive levels of PCB's.

POLLUTION

The Department of Conservation cooperates with the Environmental Protection Agency in making reports on pollution and in making pollution investigations. Anglers are very often the first to observe instances of water pollution, and their cooperation and assistance is invited in reporting these instances to district and regional fish biologists, to a conservation police officer or to the Division of Fisheries in Springfield. It is unlawful for waste or sewage to be discharged into waters so as to kill aquatic life; it is also unlawful to abandon or deposit wire, cans, bottles, glass, paper, trash, rubbish, cardboard, wood cartons, boxes, trees, brush or other insoluble materials into the water or on the ice, or at any place on the bank where such debris is liable to be washed into the water. Strict penalties are provided for violation of this section of the statute.

PROPERTY

Consideration for others is a basic philosophy of the true sportsman. Consent of the landowner or occupant of the premises should be obtained before fishing, or attempting to take minnows, turtles, crayfish or frogs on another's pro-

perty or within waters flowing over his property. Care should be taken not to cause injury or damage to another's property.

SEASONS

The Illinois sport fishing season is open year round.

SMELT

A sport fishing license entitles the angler to take smelt. Waters of Lake Michigan comprise Illinois' smelt fishery. Smelt may be taken with a seine or gill net not more than 12 feet long, 6 feet deep and with mesh size not more than 1 1/2 inches diagonal stretch, or by dip net not more than 12 feet in diameter with mesh size not less than 1 inch diagonal stretch. Trolley, or power lines, are also used by the sport fisherman in taking smelt (see Trot and Trolley Line section).

SNAGGING

Licensed anglers may snag for certain fish year-round within 300 yards downstream below all locks and dams on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers and within a 100-yard limit upstream or downstream of the dam at Horseshoe Lake in Alexander County. In these areas the following species may be taken: carp, buffalo, freshwater drum, paddlefish (2 per day), bowfin, gizzard shad, carpsuckers, longnose and shortnose gar, and suckers (except longnose sucker).

Snagging for chinook and coho salmon only (5 per day, singly or collectively) is permitted from the Lake Michigan shoreline in the Lincoln Park Lagoon from the Fullerton Avenue Bridge to the southern end of the lagoon; Waukegan Harbor; discharge canal and bay area formed by the landfill at Northwestern University, Evanston (not in lagoon); Jackson Harbor (inner & outer harbors), Winnetka Power Plant discharge area and the Waukegan Power Plant discharge area from September 16 through December 31; however, no snagging is allowed at any time within 200 feet of a moored watercraft or as otherwise posted. All snagged salmon must be removed from the area from which they were taken and disposed of properly. It is illegal to sell any salmon or parts thereof (including eggs) taken by snagging.

Every fish, taken into possession by snagging, must be kept and included in the daily limit for those species having a catch limit; no sorting of snagged fish is permitted.

Anglers are permitted only one pole and line device to which can be attached no more than two hooks.

SPEARING

Carp, buffalo, suckers, gar (except alligator gar), and bowfin may be taken with spear or gig, pitchfork, underwater spear gun, bow and arrow or archery device. Frogs may be taken with spear or gig, though use of firearms, airguns or gas guns are prohibited as are commercial fishing devices such as hoop nets, traps or seines.

SPORT FISH

Principal sport fish are the muskellunge, tiger muskie, northern pike, walleye, sauger, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, warmouth, striped bass, hybrid striped bass, white bass, yellow bass, sunfish, bluegill, crappie, trout and salmon. These may be taken only with sport fishing devices by anglers having sport fishing licenses. Other species such as catfish, freshwater drum and carp are considered both sport and commercial fish, and the means of taking and purpose for which they are taken prescribes the type of license required. Still other species are considered commercial fish, though when taken on sport fishing devices an angler must have a sport license. A fourth category is endangered and threatened species (See Endangered and Threatened Species).

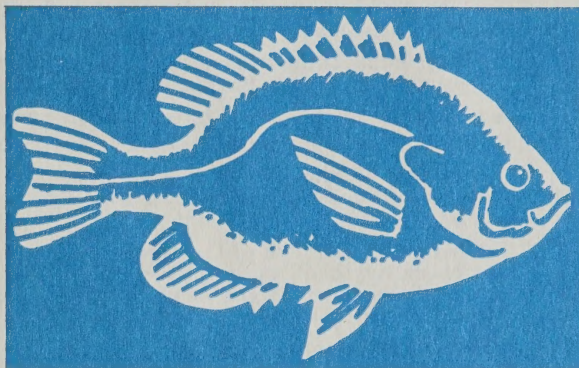
SPORT FISHING LICENSE

A sport fishing license entitles an angler to take fish, crayfish, turtles or bullfrogs within limits denoted in the Catch and Size Limits Table, except for endangered and threatened species. Devices permitted by the sport fishing license include: bank pole and line, dip net, throw line, trot line, buoyed device (jug fishing), or other legal devices not exceeding 50 hooks in total; also permitted are legal sized cast nets, shad scoops and minnow seines for bait fishing; smelt may be taken in Lake Michigan with legal sized dip nets. Two untagged sport fishing devices are allowed; each device more than two must be tagged with the angler's name and address. Any device left unattended must be tagged with the angler's name and address. If attached to a tree, the device must be attached only to the main trunk below the water line. (See also section on Ice Fishing).

Special fishing regulations at certain lakes prohibit the use of some devices or numbers of devices; please check the special regulations which are posted at each lake where applicable.

A resident sport fishing license may be obtained by

anyone who has been a resident of Illinois 30 days prior to purchase. Anglers under 16 years of age, 65 or over, and persons declared legally handicapped or blind, may fish without a license. Owners or tenants may fish in waters on or flowing over their lands without a license. This exemption does not apply to club and organizational lakes or lake developments.



Persons on active duty in the Armed Forces are considered residents. A person on active duty in the Armed Forces, who entered the service from Illinois and is an Illinois resident, may fish without a license while on leave.

An angler should have his license in possession at all times while fishing. Licenses expire on March 31 each year. Current fees are (includes agent's fee):

Resident sport fishing; annual	\$5.50
Resident sport fishing; 65 years old and over	None needed
Resident sport fishing; Under 16 years of age	None needed
Resident sport fishing; Disabled, blind	None needed
Non-resident sport fishing; 1 day, Lake Michigan	\$2.50
Non-resident sport fishing; 10 days	\$4.50
Non-resident sport fishing; annual	Reciprocal (minimum is \$6.00)
Sportsman's License (combined hunting & fishing licenses)	\$11.75

ILLINOIS SPORT FISHING AWARDS

RULES

1. Fish must be legally caught by pole and line from Illinois waters. Fish caught by trotline, jugs, bank poles, nets seines and snagging are ineligible.
2. Fish caught from fee fishing areas are not eligible.
3. The fish must be weighed in the presence of two witnesses (not relatives) and should be weighed to the nearest ounce on scales legal for trade. (Grocer scales, butcher scales.)
4. The total length of the fish must be measured to the nearest 1/8 of an inch. The total length is from the snout, mouth closed, to the end of the tail.
5. Anyone who thinks he has a state record fish must have it positively identified by a Department of Conservation Fishery Biologist.
6. A clear, black & white, lateral view photograph of the fish must accompany the entry. The Department of Conservation must have permission to publish the photograph.
7. The Illinois Department of Conservation reserves the right to investigate and check the identification, the methods used in catching and the accuracy of measurement and weight before accepting the entry. The Illinois Department of Conservation also reserves the right to reject an entry.
8. All entries must be submitted within 90 days of being caught.

AWARDS

A Big Fish Shoulder Patch and Certificate (suitable for framing) will be awarded to those anglers who catch any of the fish listed below, that equal or exceed the minimum weight specified.

A Shoulder Patch and Engraved Wall Plaque will be awarded to the angler who catches a fish of the species listed bigger than the current state record.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIES TO BE ENTERED

Minimum Weight		Minimum Weight		Minimum Weight	
Species	Lbs. Oz.	Species	Lbs. Oz.	Species	Lbs. Oz.
Largemouth Bass	7 0	Rock Bass	1 0	Pink Salmon	2 0
Smallmouth Bass	3 8	Warmouth	1 0	Atlantic Salmon	5 0
Spotted Bass	3 8	Other Sunfish	1 0	Lake Trout	15 0
White Bass	2 12	Hybrid Sunfish	1 8	Brown Trout	20 0
Yellow Bass	1 0	White Crappie	3 0	Rainbow Trout	15 0
Striped Bass	15 0	Black Crappie	3 0	Brook Trout	2 0
Northern Pike	15 0	Channel Catfish	17 0	Tiger Trout	3 0
Muskie	15 0	Blue Catfish	30 0	Splake	2 0
Tiger Muskie	15 0	Flathead Catfish	30 0	Carp	20 0
Walleye	6 0	Black Bullhead	2 4	Bowfin	8 0
Sauger	3 0	Yellow Bullhead	2 4	Freshwater Drum	10 0
Yellow Perch	1 4	Brown Bullhead	2 4	Paddlefish	20 0
Bluegill	1 8	Coho Salmon	15 0	Smallmouth Buffalo	20 0
Redear	1 8	Chinook Salmon	33 0	Bigmouth Buffalo	20 0
Green Sunfish	1 8	Kokanee Salmon	1 0	Shovelnose Sturgeon	2 0

APPLICATIONS

Official entry blanks are available from Department of Conservation addresses on back of this brochure.

STATE RECORD FISH

December 1, 1980

COMMON NAME	WEIGHT
Largemouth bass	13 lb. 1 oz.
Rock bass	1 lb. 9 oz.
Smallmouth bass	6 lb. 5 1/2 oz.
Spotted bass	6 lb. 10 oz.
Striped bass	19 lb. 6 oz.
White bass	3 lb. 13 1/2 oz.
Yellow bass	1 lb. 13 oz.
Bluegill	2 lb. 10 oz.
Bowfin	12 lb. 12 1/2 oz.
Bigmouth buffalo	43 lb. 6 oz.
Smallmouth buffalo	22 lb. 1/2 oz.
Black bullhead	4 lb. 10 oz.
Yellow bullhead	5 lb. 4 oz.
Carp	42 lb. 0 oz.
Blue catfish	65 lb. 0 oz.
Channel catfish	28 lb. 6 oz.
Flathead catfish	60 lb. 8 oz.
Black crappie	4 lb. 8 oz.
White crappie	4 lb. 7 oz.
Freshwater drum	35 lb. 0 oz.
Alligator gar	157 lb. 0 oz.
Muskellunge	28 lb. 0 oz.
Northern pike	22 lb. 12 oz.
Paddlefish	52 lb. 0 oz.
Yellow perch	2 lb. 8 3/4 oz.
Atlantic salmon	18 lb. 11 3/4 oz.
Chinook salmon	37 lb. 0 oz.
Coho salmon	20 lb. 9 oz.
Sauger	5 lb. 12 1/2 oz.
Green sunfish	2 lb. 0 oz.
Hybrid sunfish	2 lb. 4 oz.
Redear sunfish	2 lb. 6 1/2 oz.
Brook trout	4 lb. 1 oz.
Brown trout	28 lb. 8 oz.
Lake trout	19 lb. 5 oz.
Rainbow trout	22 lb. 1 oz.
Tiger trout	8 lb. 12 1/2 oz.
Walleye	14 lb. 0 oz.
Warmouth	1 lb. 13 oz.
Shovelnose sturgeon	2 lb. 9 oz.

SALMON STAMP

Anglers are required to purchase a "Salmon Stamp" prior to taking of salmon and trout. Fees are (includes agent's fees):

Resident and non-resident, annual\$2.50
Resident; 65 years old and over None needed
Resident; under 16 years of age None needed
Resident; disabled, blind None needed

STOCKING

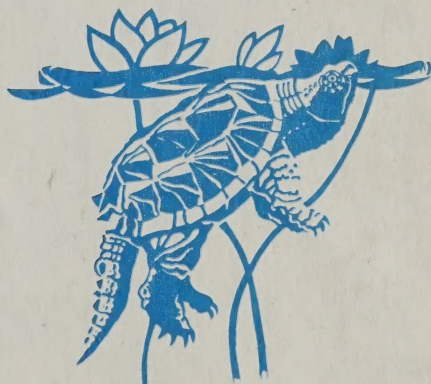
Fish may be released into the waters from which they were taken, but permission from the Department of Conservation must be secured before releasing fish in other waters.

TROLLING

Trolling is permissible, provided the angler have not more than two poles and lines with not more than two hooks or lures on each.

TROT AND TROLLEY LINES

Hooks on trot lines, throw lines and similar devices should be spaced not less than 24 inches apart, except on trolley or power lines used in Lake Michigan.



TURTLES

Turtles may not be taken by commercial fishing devices, including hoop nets, traps or seines, or by using firearms, air guns or gas guns. Turtles may be taken only by hand or by hook and line. Locating turtles by rodding, and then taking by hand is permissible.

OUTDOOR HIGHLIGHTS

The Illinois Conservation Department's OUTDOOR HIGHLIGHTS is a newsletter that keeps the citizen up-to-date with information about conservation, environment and outdoor recreation in Illinois regularly — 36 issues a year.

OUTDOOR HIGHLIGHTS is mailed to your address four times monthly April through September and twice monthly October through March, to keep you personally abreast of the fast pace at which the ever-changing outdoor scene moves.

Illinois' resources belong to you — their wise use depends on completely informed citizens. Just clip and mail the coupon below, with your check. (Please no cash or stamps.) Please allow 6 weeks for delivery.

ANGLERS!

A special fishing report is carried in each issue from April through September with information on where the fish are hitting, what baits and lures are being used, and other pertinent facts.

(FG)

Please send check or money order only. Make payable to: Illinois Department of Conservation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

County _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

SUBSCRIPTION RATE (Please Check One)

☐ 1 year - \$4.00 ☐ 2 years - \$7.50 ☐ 3 years - \$10.50

Send coupon and check to: Illinois Department of Conservation, Information/Education, Dept. NL, 605 Wm. G. Stratton Building, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

CONSERVATION ADDRESSES:

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE

Department of Conservation
Division of Fish and
Wildlife Resources
600 N. Grand Ave. West
Springfield, Illinois 62706
217/782-6424

CHICAGO OFFICE

Department of Conservation
State of Illinois Building
160 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312/793-2070

REGIONAL OFFICES

Department of Conservation
Region I Office
2612 Locust
Sterling, Illinois 61081
815/625-2968

Department of Conservation
Region IV Office
34 West Broadway
Alton, Illinois 62002
618/462-1181

Department of Conservation
Region II Office
110 James Road
Spring Grove, Illinois 60081
815/675-2385

Department of Conservation
Region V Office
P.O. Box D
Benton, Illinois 62812
618/435-8138

Department of Conservation
Region III Office
8 Henson Place
Champaign, Illinois 61820
217/333-5773

NOTICE: This publication is
intended as a guide only. For
official law see Illinois revised
statutes.



Illinois
Department of
Conservation
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